

PENN CAMBRIA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
201 6<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
CRESSON, PENNSYLVANIA 16630

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Regular Meeting  
April 19, 2022

MEMBERS: Caleb Drenning, Matthew Kearney, Terry Krug, Rudy McCarthy,  
Guy Monica, George Pyo, Justin Roberts, Michael Sheehan, Jeffrey Stohon

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A Regular Meeting of the Penn Cambria School District Board of Education was called to order by George Pyo, President, at 7:00 P.M., Tuesday, April 19, 2022, in the Library of the Penn Cambria High School.

ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Caleb Drenning  
Mr. Matthew Kearney  
Mr. Terry Krug  
Mr. Rudy McCarthy  
Mr. Guy Monica  
Mr. George Pyo  
Mr. Justin Roberts  
Mr. Michael Sheehan  
Mr. Jeffrey Stohon  
TOTAL. . . . . 9

MEMBERS ABSENT:

TOTAL. . . . . 0

QUORUM PRESENT.

**AMONG OTHERS PRESENT:**

William Marshall, Superintendent  
Krystal Edwards, School Solicitor – Beard Legal Group, PC  
Jill Francisco, Business Administrator  
Jeanette Black, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Kaitlyn Kalwanaski, High School Principal  
Greg Shingle, Assistant High School Principal  
Dane Harrold, Middle School Principal  
Benjamin Watt, Assistant Middle School Principal  
Scott Sherry, Director of Buildings, Grounds, & Maintenance

Joseph Smorto, Elementary Principal  
Courtney Kuncelman, School Psychologist  
Carrie Conrad, Special Education Director  
Lewis Hale, Director of Technology  
Kayla Galebach, School Social Worker  
Jacquelyn Mento, Recording Secretary  
Adam Clevenger, PCEA President  
Kristin Baudoux, Mainliner Reporter  
Kerry Nileski, Teacher

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the following were the items of business and discussion.

**ANNOUNCEMENT** – Mr. George Pyo, Board President, announced that Penn Cambria School District has been recorded as participating in the PSBA Principles for Governance and Leadership. Mr. Pyo highlighted policy 011 that was approved at last month’s Board of Directors meeting and shared the banner of commitment that has been individually signed by each Board member. (*See Addendum “A”*)

**HEARING OF VISITORS** – There were no questions, concerns, comments, related to school business.

**SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Congratulations to the following Penn Cambria students who placed 2nd at the Skills USA State Competition: Xavier Hutsky - Electrical Construction Technology, David Novotny - Technical Drafting, and Gavin Weakland - Collision Repair Technology.

Congratulations to the following Forensics Regional Champions:

1st place: Haley Gray - Dramatic Interp., Addyson Ehredt - Oratorical Declamation, and Julia Gil - Persuasive

2nd place: Andre Marinak - Commentary and Caleb Hunt - Informative

3rd place: Joseph Hite - Extemporaneous, Camilla Wu - Persuasive, and Sydney Greene - Prose

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. McCarthy, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the regular meeting held March 15, 2022, be approved as recorded in the copies mailed to the Board prior to this meeting.

#### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Stohon, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the invoices as mailed to Board prior to the meeting, and as evaluated and reviewed, reconciled, and recommended for payment by the Business Office be hereby approved for payment. Copy to be made part of the minutes. (*See Addendum "B"*)

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the Treasurer's Report for March 2022, be accepted as mailed to the Board, and that a copy be filed with the official records of the School District. (*See Addendum "C"*)

#### **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

A motion was offered by Mr. McCarthy, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

##### **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**RESOLVED:** That the reports of grants, projects and federal programs and financial reports for the general fund, capital reserve fund, and cafeteria fund be accepted as presented to the Board and that a copy be filed with the official records of the School District. (*See Addendum "D"*)

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

*Ms. Krystal Edwards* informed the Board of Directors of a publication in the Education Law Report regarding a Federal Court case that upheld a parent's ban from athletic events and district property, due to the school district's board policy on the topic of fan decorum. *Ms. Edwards* stated that Penn Cambria has Policy 904, Public Attendance at School Events, already in place and recommended that the District continue reviewing policies and updating handbooks.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Monica, seconded by Mr. Kearney, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That the Superintendent's recommendations be approved as follows:

##### **A. PERSONNEL ACTIONS**

Accept Resignations

Nicholas DelPidio, Cresson, High School Custodian, effective March 14, 2022

Jennifer Seymour, Lilly, Middle School Food Service Worker, effective April 14, 2022

Remove Substitutes

April Rose, Loretto, Substitute Nurse, effective March 15, 2022

Alexandra Fleming, Patton, Substitute Teacher, effective May 2, 2022

Approve Appointment

Amy Walters, Cresson, Volunteer Junior High Girls Basketball Coach, effective immediately

Approve additional Non-Public Title 1 Summer School and Extra Duty Substitute Teachers, pending documentation

Amanda Zaliznock, Cresson  
Kimberly Rieg, Ashville

Approve McIlwain School Bus Lines, Inc. Drivers

Richard Lynch, Ashville  
Tammy Coke, Ashville

**B. SET GRADUATION LOCATION, DATE, AND TIME**

Graduation will be held at the Maurice Stokes Athletic Center/DeGol Arena on the campus of Saint Francis University on Saturday, June 4th at 1:00 PM.

**C. APPROVE THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR (See Addendum "E")**

**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was offered by Mr. Krug, seconded by Mr. Sheehan, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**ADOPTION OF NEW OR REVISED POLICIES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve the second reading and adoption of the following policies:

111: Lesson Plans  
218.1: Weapons  
903: Public Participation in Board Meetings  
(See Addendum "F")

A motion was offered by Mr. Monica, seconded by Mr. Roberts, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**SUPERINTENDENT PERFORMANCE STANDARD OBJECTIVES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors, having concluded the evaluation cycle, has determined that the Superintendent, pursuant to Act 141 of the Pennsylvania School Code enacted in 2012, has successfully achieved the mutually agreed upon goals in his contract for the 2021-2022 school year.

A motion was offered by Mr. Sheehan, seconded by Mr. Stohon, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolutions:

**2022-2023 IU08 GENERAL FUND BUDGET**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve the 2022-2023 IU08 General Fund Budget, including a total contribution of \$173,000 from 35 participating school districts; Penn Cambria's share estimate at \$4,909.89.

**SUBSTITUTE SERVICES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve Penn Cambria School District participation with the Appalachia Intermediate Unit 08 to provide emergency substitute services to the Penn Cambria School District for a fee of \$500 for the 2022-2023 school year.

**AUTHORIZATION OF PARTICIPATION IN AASD ELECT PROGRAM**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby authorize Altoona Area School District's ELECT Program to apply for and expend funds on behalf of the Penn Cambria School District through the AASD ELECT Consortium, to operate the ELECT program and activities for eligible students through 2023.

**OUT OF STATE CONFERENCE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors approve Ms. Holly Smith, 7 qualified students, and 2 chaperones to attend the National Forensics Competition in Washington, DC on May 26, 2022.

## **VOLUNTEER CHAPERONES**

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Directors hereby approve Jennifer Erculiani and D.J. Gray as volunteer chaperones to accompany qualifying students to the 2022 National Forensics Competition.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

First reading of new or revised board policies:

- 314: Physical Examination
  - 317.1: Educator Misconduct
  - 331: Job Related Expenses
  - 805.2: School Security Personnel
  - 832: Educational Equity
- (*See Addendum "G"*)

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Joseph Smorto, Elementary Principal, highlighted the Trauma-Skilled Schools Model piloted at the intermediate school this year. "Trauma-Skilled Schools Model was created by the National Dropout Prevention Center and is a 5-step process that starts with training all school staff members on the foundations of trauma, then introduces building resiliency, skill acquisition, assessment, and implementation, and then maintenance. Our Trauma-Skilled Schools steering team includes Mrs. Black, Mrs. Kuncelman, Mrs. Madison, Mrs. Mignogna, and Mr. Smearman.

So, what is trauma? Trauma can be defined as the result of constant stressors and emotionally painful experiences. Trauma can affect anyone. What may cause trauma to one person, may or may not be traumatic to another. According to a study conducted by Finkelhor et al., over two thirds of children in the study experienced or witnessed at least one incident of violence. Other than violence, there are many other more common adverse conditions that may cause trauma such as, homelessness, loss of a loved one, fire, automobile accident, and poverty.

It is imperative that we address trauma because we have students in our schools that have stressors like these. Students and staff who are experiencing trauma can often go unnoticed and behaviors can manifest that are not easily recognized. This is why the Trauma-Skilled Schools Model is beneficial because it is not a program to solely target students who are experiencing trauma, but it is rather a whole-school model to integrate these initiatives and practices for all students, as well as staff members.

So how are we implementing this model? This year at the intermediate school we really focused on building a culture that fosters belonging, which is a component of resiliency in the Trauma-Skilled Schools Model. According to this model, belonging is a sense of acceptance, safety, and membership within the school. This year, I addressed the staff and named belonging as the theme at the elementary schools. We first started with posting positive messages and bulletin boards all connecting to the theme of belonging. The great thing about the Trauma-Skilled Schools Model is that every staff member goes through the same training. They hear the same language and experience the same message. Therefore, teachers and staff can all contribute to the initiatives--and are encouraged to. For example, one of our teachers, Mrs. Gibbons, created affirmation mirrors to hang up around the school. There are positive messages around the mirrors that the students can read and be reminded of when they pass them. Mrs. Madison created a "get to know our staff" game during our lunch periods.

Every elementary school participates in daily challenges included in the morning announcements. Some examples of our daily challenges are "Play with someone new at recess" and "Invite someone playing alone to join your game". Our elementary newsletters contain featured staff members, and we created a Panther Den, where students can submit pictures of accomplishments that they are proud of outside of school. These are just some ways our staff have contributed to building this culture that fosters belonging.

As you heard tonight and I'm sure you already know, life stressors affect everyone. The Trauma-Skilled Schools Model promotes staff members to be intentional and purposeful with practices in hopes that these life stressors can be more manageable. This takes teamwork. I will say that our elementary staff members have accepted this challenge and all work as a team to promote more of a positive culture for learning."

Mr. Smorto provided a handout of some purposeful practices the Trauma Skilled Team distributed to all staff members to use throughout the day. (*See Addendum "H"*)

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Mr. Kearney, seconded by Mr. Drenning, and approved unanimously by voice aye vote, to accept the following resolution:

**RESOLVED:** That there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned at 7:27 P.M.